(c) The decision to extradite Mr. Milosevic was taken by a foreign government. The Government of India was not involved in the interaction between the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia (ICTY) at The Hague.

Impact of National Missile Defence System

2645. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's assessment of the impact on world peace of the US announcement of National Missile Defence System in the counter of identification of 'rogue countries' like Iraq and North Korea and its obvious rivalry with the Nuclear Power of China;

(b) whether Government see in this move an attempt to start "the Star-Wars" of the cold war era; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken by Government in the light of these moves for establishing world peace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) The US plans on a "new strategic framework' comprising four elements, namely, non-proliferation, counter proliferation, missile defence, and a reduction in US strategic nuclear forces, seek to transform the strategic parameters on which the Cold War security architecture was build. Government, while welcoming the announcement to reduce US nuclear forces, conveyed appreciation for the US intention to continue close consultations with its allies, friends and other interested countries. It is India's expectation that the US would continue to be guided by the spirit of dialogue, consultation and cooperation in this process. India has also conveyed its expectation to the US that it would pursue its plans in a manner that enhances regional and international stability and security.

Indo-China discussions to resolve border disputes

2646. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether experts from India and China held their ninth round of discussion to clarify key portion of Sino-Indian Border;

(b) whether the differences on the middle sector (Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh) have been sorted out in disucssions;

(c) when and where the next round of discussion is scheduled to be held; and

(d) the other details in this regard?